

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: JUNE 14 COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF PARAGRAPH 9

1. RUMSFELD OPENED DISCUSSION NAC JUNE 14 WITH STATEMENT THAT THE U.S., IN AN EFFORT TO REACH AGREEMENT ON PARAGRAPH 11 BEFORE OTTAWA, WAS NOW PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE COMPROMISE LANGUAGE FORMULATED BY COUNCIL DEAN DE STAERCCKE (BELGIUM). HE NOTED THAT THE TEXT OF THE BELGIAN COMPROMISE AS CIRCULATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF ON THE MORNING OF JUNE 14 DIFFERED SLIGHTLY

FROM THE PREVIOUS TEXT AS REPORTED TO WASHINGTON (PARA 3 USNATO 3327) IN THAT THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF TEXT INSERTED "BY ALL APPROPRIATE MEANS," BETWEEN "CONSULTATIONS," AND "ON MATTERS ...". THE PREVIOUS TEXT AS REPORTED TO WASHINGTON HAD PLACED THE LANGUAGE "WITH ALL THE APPROPRIATE MEANS" BETWEEN "STRENGTHEN" AND "THE PRACTICE OF ...". RUMSFELD POINTED OUT THIS DISCREPANCY WAS NOT SURPRISING GIVEN THE PACE OF COUNCIL WORK ON THE DECLARATION OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS.

2. RUMSFELD SAID THE UNITED STATES HAD ACCEPTED THE BELGIAN COMPROMISE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT IT HAD PREVIOUSLY PROVED ACCEPTABLE TO ALL OF THE ALLIES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE. THE UNITED STATES WAS PREPARED TO REMOVE ITS PREFERRED VERSION FROM CONSIDERATION AND HE URGED THE COUNCIL TO REACH AGREEMENT ON PARAGRAPH 11 ON THE BASIS OF THE BELGIAN
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COMPROMISE.

3. LUNS ASKED WHETHER NAC COULD NOW FULLY AGREE ON TEXT OF PARAGRAPH 11. DE ROSE SAID HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE COMPROMISE

FORMULA AND WOULD CONTACT HIS AUTHORITIES ON THE BASIS OF THIS NEW DEVELOPMENT WITH THE HOPE OF HAVING NEW INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COUNCIL RECONVENED TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DPC TODAY, WHICH WILL BE BETWEEN 5:00 P.M. AND 6:00 P.M. BRUSSELS TIME.

4. AFTER THE MEETING I MET WITH DE ROSE WHO INDICATED HE WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT PARIS AGREE TO THE BELGIAN FORMUAL. HOWEVER, HE THOUGHT PARIS WOULD STILL HAVE SOME DIFFICULTIES WITH IT AND HE SAID THAT HE PLANNED TO OFFER TO PARIS A COM-PROMISE PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD INSERT SOME LANGUAGE WHICH MIGHT MAKE IT EASIER FOR PARIS TO ACCEPT THE SENTENCE. THE SENTENCE HE WOULD PROPOSE WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS: "IN THE SPIRIT OF THE FRIENDSHIP, EQUALITY, AND SOLIDARITY WHICH CHARACTERIZES THEIR RELATIONSHIPS, THEY UNDERTAKE TO KEEP EACH OTHER FULLY INFORMED AND WILL, USING ALL APPROPRIATE MEANS, STRENGTHEN THE PRACTICE OF FRANK AND TIMELY CONSULTATIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THEIR COMMON INTERESTS AS MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THESE INTERESTS CAN BE AFFECTED BY EVENTS IN OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD." THIS SENTENCE WOULD SUBSTITUTE FOR THE SENTENCE AS NOW AGREED BY ALL ALLIES EXCEPT FRANCE WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS: "IN THE SPIRIT OF THE FRIENDSHIP, EQUALITY AND SOLIDARITY WHICH CHARACTERISE THEIR RELATIONSHIPS, THEY WILL KEEP EACH OTHER FULLY INFORMED AND STRENGTHEN THE PRACTICE OF FRANK AND TIMELY CONSULTATIONS, BY ALL APPROPRIATE MEANS, ON MATTERS RELATING TO THEIR COMMON INTERESTS AS ALLIES, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THESE INTERESTS CAN BE AFFECTED BY EVENTS IN OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD."

5. I BELIEVE THAT DE ROSE'S SUGGESTION HOLDS ESSENTIALLY TO THE BELGIAN COMPROMISE ALTHOUGH IT RETURNS TO THE EARLIER FRENCH IDEA OF USING THE WORD "UNDERTAKE" WHEN SPEAKING OF INFORMING AND THE VERB "WILL STRENGTHEN" WHEN SPEAKING OF CONSULTATIONS. THE TEXT WOULD ALSO SEPAK OF "THEIR COMMON INTERESTS AS MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE" INSTEAD OF "THEIR COMMON INTERESTS AS ALLIES." FURTHER, THE DE ROSE FORMULA WOULD PLACE THE PHRASE "BY (OR USING) ALL APPROPRIATE MEANS" AT AN EARLIER POINT
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IN THE SENTENCE, AS DID THE EARLIER VERSION OF THE BELGIAN COMPROMISE. I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SENTENCE TO WHICH THE U.S. HAS NOW AGREED AND THE SENTENCE AS DE ROSE MAY PROPOSE TO AMEND IT. ACCORDINGLY, IF DE ROSE DOES COME BACK TO THE COUNCIL THIS EVENING WITH A FIRM AGREEMENT ON PARAGRAPH 11 IF HIS AMENDMENTS TO THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 11 ARE ACCEPTED, IT IS MY INTENTION TO ACCEPT THE LANGUAGE UNLESS I AM ADVISED OTHERWISE PRIOR TO 6:00 P.M. BRUSSELS TIME.
RUMSFELD

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